

July 8

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY **East Germany** REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT **SED Politbüro Meeting of 14 September** DATE DISTR. **20 September 1955**

NO. OF PAGES **2**

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] REQUIREMENT NO. **RD**

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] REFERENCES **This is UNEVALUATED Information**

DATE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

25X1
25X1

25X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

25X1

1. The principal matter discussed at the meeting of the SED Politbüro on 14 September 1955 was the Adenauer-Bulganin conference in Moscow. Prior to the meeting, Deputy Minister President Walter Ulbricht had been summoned by the Chief of Protocol at the Soviet Embassy, who complained that the East German press had published distorted reports of the Moscow conference. Ulbricht was ordered to call the 14 September meeting in order to bring about a change in the "line" of the East German press.
2. At the Politbüro meeting Ulbricht stated that he had been assigned to explain that it is in the interest of the Soviet Union and the CPSU Central Committee to solve the problem of war prisoners and that a delegation headed by Otto Grotewohl was to go to Moscow to discuss the question of prisoners released by the Soviet Union to the DDR for continuation of their sentences in East German prisons.
3. Ulbricht himself had attempted, through the Soviet Embassy in Berlin, to be appointed leader of the delegation to Moscow. His request was denied by the Soviets, who preferred to have Grotewohl head the delegation.
4. It is rumored in the offices of the Politbüro that Grotewohl was chosen because Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Semenov, an old opponent of Ulbricht's, is slated to become Soviet Ambassador to the Federal Republic. Semenov disagrees with Ulbricht's policies in regard to Germany, and it is felt that he considers that his prestige in West Germany would be impaired if he negotiated with a delegation led by Ulbricht. Grotewohl stated on 13 September that it would please him greatly if Semenov were to be appointed Soviet Ambassador to the Federal Republic.
5. During the second half of September important discussions of economic relations are scheduled to take place between the Polish Embassy and representatives of the DDR. The problem of the East German-Polish border also is on the agenda. The discussions are at the request of the Soviet Embassy, whose representatives will attend.

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ARMY	<input type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input type="checkbox"/>	AEC	<input type="checkbox"/>	ONE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OCI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
-------	-------------------------------------	------	--------------------------	------	--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------	-----	-------------------------------------

(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

Page Denied